make the total investment on these schemes at the close of the next year stand at Rs 210·68 lakhs. The Revised Estimate of receipts from these schemes for the current year is Rs 3·16 lakhs and the Budget Estimate for the next year, Rs 8·86 lakhs.

36. I shall now turn to a review of the Debt position and Ways and Means for the current year and the next.

Debt Position.

A statement of assets and liabilities is furnished on pages 12 and 13 of the Budget Estimates. It will be seen therefrom that our liabilities at the close of 1118 including the balances at the credit of some of the Funds such as General Reserve Fund, Revenue Reserve Fund etc., which are not repayable aggregate to Rs 697 lakhs. On the asset side, our outlay on productive schemes is also included as they are real assets and were treated as such till 1115, though accounted for in subsequent years under Capital expenditure not charged to revenue. Against the above liability the total assets amount to Rs 763 lakhs which is Rs 66 lakhs in excess of the liabilities. It may, however, be mentioned here that the above assets do not include the outlay on the Kodayar Project Scheme and on non-productive schemes. If these are also taken into account, the total assets would exceed the liabilities by more than 2 crores. Our debt position may therefore be considered as satisfactory.

Ways and Means.

37. The final accounts of 1116 have resulted in an opening cash balance of Rs 54·25 lakhs for 1117 with short term deposits in Banks to the extent of Rs 30·54 lakhs. We have discharged this year the 5 per cent. loan of 1091 to the extent of Rs 14·34 lakhs from our cash balances and a small portion of this loan to the extent of Rs 41,000 only have not yet been presented for discharge. We had a sinking fund of Rs 14·75 lakhs invested in gilt-edged securities for redeeming this loan. But in view of our strong cash position there was no necessity to use this investment for the discharge of the loan. This investment has therefore been transferred to the credit of the General Reserve Fund. Including the receipt of about Rs 5 lakhs from a short-term deposit, the transactions during the year under Revenue, Capital and Debt Heads, will result in a net receipt of Rs 16·33 lakhs due to increase in Savings Bank Deposit and other Debt Head receipts and also on account of the slow progress of capital works. The year is therefore expected to close with a cash balance of Rs 70·58 lakhs and the short-term deposits will amount to Rs 25·45 lakhs. The result of the several transactions during the next year is also estimated to be a net receipt amounting to Rs 15·54 lakhs. It is therefore proposed to invest a further sum of Rs 25 lakhs in short-term deposits in Banks, a cash balance of Rs 60 lakhs being more than sufficient to conduct the day to day transactions of Government. We will thus have at the end of next year a cash balance of more than Rs 60 lakhs, short-term deposits

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in Banks to the extent of Rs 50·45 lakhs besides other safe and fluid investments amounting to more than 2 crores of rupees. The cash position will therefore be as strong as ever and there will be no necessity to resort to any borrowing during the current year or the next.

CONCLUSION.

38. Sir, I have attempted to explain to the House in as brief a manner as possible, the financial position of the State in general and with particular reference to the transactions of the year that is going out and the one that is coming in. The current year as well as the ensuing year are both expected to close with a surplus. These results, particularly gratifying at this time of universal stress and strain, are expected to be attained not by starving the normal requirements of a progressive administration or crippling the usual measures of amelioration in relief of distress, but by the careful conservation of our resources without imposing on the poor ryot the burden of any new taxation and the exercise of due economy in all possible directions without impairing efficiency. Even in the midst of the threats of war, the Government have not stinted in the allotments provided for the various departments, Nation building, Development, as well as Socio-economic. It cannot certainly be said that we are quite removed from the dangers of war and its repercussions. But thanks, Sir, to your drive and inspiring personality, never-failing resourcefulness and unlimited sympathy, you have, by your guidance and direction, made it possible for us to hold our heads above water. Our revenues are progressive and our cash balances sufficient to meet our demands. Our debt and other obligations are not much and even for these there is more than ample provision to meet possible demands.

Let me conclude with the sincere hope and prayer that the State of Travancore blessed with a Maharaja, young in years, but old in wisdom, and wholly devoted to the interests of His subjects may grow from strength to strength. May I also take this occasion to express my indebtedness to the Dewan, a Minister of tried experience and versatility, a stranger to the country by birth and nationality, but more than a Travancorean by adoption and sympathies, for his able guidance but for which my task would not have been so easy.

President : Order, order. The House will now adjourn and meet again at 2·30 P. M.

The House adjourned at 1.5 P. M. and re-assembled at 2·30 P. M. with the Dewan-President in the Chair. Lieut. Col. G. P. Murphy, Resident for the Madras States, Mr. B. M. Bacon, Officer on special duty in the Madras States Agency, and Mrs. Bacon were present and seated on the dais.

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